Hour, he can do so otherwise there is no need to give reply during the Zero Hour. If he wants to give reply then I will not come in the way. I am not stopping him.

13.00 hrs.

If he wants to say something, I will not stop him.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he wants to say. ...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please let him reply.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. lady Member has raised the issue of import of wheat from Australia. The State Trading Corporation has given its concept for importing around ten lakh tonnes of wheat from Australia but the consignment has not yet reached here. The Experts' team of the Agriculture Department has tested it. The Experts' team has found a kind of weed alongwith wheat likely to be harmful here. This is an *exotic* type of seed, which can cause harm. However, the Experts' team has given three types of suggestions: *viz.* when wheat mixed up with weed is sent to our country, then it should be immediately converted into flour and then it should be distributed or else, weed mixed wheat should be supplied/distributed in those areas where wheat is not produced/grown. If the wheat is distributed/ supplied during off season, when wheat production is not undertaken, then there would be no possibility of growing of grass. There is no harm in consuming this wheat. In the country, where wheat is grown in large quantities, removing of weed will be difficult but there is no harm if there is weed alongwith the wheat. Therefore, as per the suggestions given by the Experts' team, sanction was accorded for import of the said type of wheat. There would be no harm from this wheat. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please allow Shri Mohle to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

13.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at eight minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Ram Naik may now please lay on the Table Item Nos. 7 and 8 mentioned in the Order Paper.

14.09 hrs.

RULES COMMITTEE

(i) Third Report

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Sir, with your permission I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-rule (1) of rule 331 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rules Committee.

(ii) Minutes

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, with your permission, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sitting of the Rules Committee held on 8th May, 1997.

14.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to give compensation to farmers whose land has come under barbed wire fencing on Indo-Pak border

[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN (Sriganganagar): The Government of India had erected barbed wire fencing on Indo-Pakistan border. But the farmers whose land was covered under this fencing have not been paid any compensation so far. These farmers face a lot of difficulties while approaching their lands. Besides, they can neither irrigate their fields easily nor carry out sowing and harvesting operations.

Therefore, the Union Government is requested that the farmers whose land has come under the barbed wire fencing should either be allotted land in lieu of such lands or they should be paid compensation so that they could get some relief.